GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5173
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
ILLEGAL MINING AND THEFT OF COAL
SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a): whether unused store materials vis-Ã -vis indents in each colliery store/area store are verified in Kunustoria Area office in Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL):

(b): if so, the details and cost thereof;

(c): whether verification of Book Stock and physical stock of coal in each colliery/Area and measurement of the same to be done by any independent body/agency; and

(d): the steps taken to stop illegal mining and theft of coal at random from ECL sidings/depots and curtailment of unnecessary official expenditure including restriction of vehicles movements as well as reduction in numbers of cars/vehicles?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a): Yes, Sir. All unused store materials in area stores as well as colliery stores, Kunustoria area of ECLare verified by internal audit deptt. of ECL and statutory auditors periodically(.)

(b): Total unused store and spares as on 31.3.01 in Kunustoria area is as follows;

Stock at Kunustoria area stores Rs.
305.72 lakhs

Stock at different colliery
Stores of Kunustoria area Rs. 108.72
lakhs
-
Total Rs. 414.44 lakhs
-

(c): The verification of physical stock of coal vis-a- vis book stock i n each colliery/area through measurement is taken up in the following schedule:

1 At unit/colliery level - monthly
2 At area level - quarterly
3 At subsidiary level - half-yearly
4 At Coal India level -annually. Coal

inventory teams for annual measurements for ascertaining the physical stock in the company are formed with members from other subsidiaries. Around 10% of mines are subject to check measurements by teams, members of which are taken from CMPDIL and other independent organisations like MECL, Indian Bureau of Mines and Singareni Collieiries Company Ltd.

(d): Steps taken by ECL to stop illegal mining are as under:

1. Intelligence collection

2. Round the clock patrolling by own security force and CISF joint raids by security, CISF and police

3. Surprise checks/raids of illegal mining sites by company security force and CISF.

4. Erection of fencing/walls in abandoned/disused workings, drowning of old workings

5. Dozing off and filling up the illegal mining sites wherever possible

6. Blacklisting the trucks seized carrying coal from such operation.

7 Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining of coal are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police stations and FIRs are lodged.

8. Close liaison is kept with the district and state authorities seeking their help and co-operation in curbing illegal mining. A district level Joint Monitoring Committee constituted by State Govt. under the chairmanship of District Magistrate conducts meetings frequently and interactions are being done with all concerned authorities.

Steps taken to stop theft of coal at random from ECL siding/depot are:

1. Regular FIRs are being lodged with police

2. Security personnel are being deployed round the clock at the sidings/depots to check theft of coal

3. Surprise checks/raids are being conducted by CISF and ECL security

4. Joint patrolling are being conducted with the help of CISF, ECL security and local police

Austerity measures are already in vogue at ECL. Necessary steps for restriction on use of vehicle and expenditure are being taken.